



PASSPORT & CITIZENSHIP OFFICE

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

NEW FEE IN PASSPORT APPLICATION

Effective March 8, 2005, a surcharge of \$12 will be added to the existing cost of a U.S. passport. The surcharge was authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, to support enhanced border security. The Department is in the midst of a multi-year effort to increase border security by strengthening the security of the passport adjudication process and the physical passport itself. These changes impose a variety of developmental and operating costs on the Bureau of Consular Affairs.

The surcharge will be used to support the issuance of a newly redesigned passport containing new security features. One of these is the addition of a biometric identifier. A chip will be embedded in the cover and will contain the same information that appears on the data page, including the bearer's picture as the biometric.

The new fee will also cover the cost of sending passports by Priority Mail, a security feature that allows us to better track and account for passports.

Routine Service (Form DS-11)

| Passport Service | Passport Fee | Execution Fee | Security Surcharge | Total Fee |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Under Age 16 | \$40 | \$30 | \$12 | \$82 |
| Age 16 and over | \$55 | \$30 | \$12 | \$97 |

Routine Service (Form DS-82)

| Passport Service | Passport Fee | Security Surcharge | Total Fee |
|---|--------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Adult Passport (10-year validity) Renewal | \$55 | \$12 | \$67 |

-- The main objective of the proposed adjustments to the Schedule of Consular Fees first published as a Proposed Rule on July 19, 2004, in the Federal Register, and then as a Final Rule on February 2, 2005, is to ensure that the State Department recovers the costs of consular services through user fees to the maximum extent appropriate and permitted by law.

-- 31 U.S.C. 9701 and/or 22 U.S.C. 4219, implemented through Executive Order 10718 of June 27, 1957, authorized the Secretary of State to establish fees to be charged for official consular services to ensure that State Department recovers the costs of providing these services. A number of other statutes address specific fees.

-- The Office of Management and Budget guidelines (OMB Circular A-25) require the Department to periodically review the schedule to ensure recovery of costs for user fees.

-- In addition, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108- 47), added three new surcharges. The surcharges that will be added to the passport and immigrant visa fees will help the Department pay for enhanced security features in both documents. The surcharge for fraud prevention and detection on H-1B/L visas will help the State Department and other involved agencies recover costs involved in detecting and deterring visa fraud.

-- The last changes to our fee schedule were in June, August, and November of 2002.